

SECRET

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COMMENTS CONCERNING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN
"OUTPOST" AS COMPARED WITH A STATION OR BASE

1. No formal recognition is given in Agency Regulations to an overseas "Outpost" although there are a number of persons stationed at locations called "Outposts" who report to or through Chiefs of Field Stations, instead of reporting directly to Headquarters in the manner followed by Stations and Bases.
2. Outposts are established by stationing an individual at a point in a foreign country, other than the point where the Chief of Station is located. Officers located at such outposts generally receive their instructions and assignments from and report directly to Chiefs of Station of the country in which they are located. Outposts are in effect merely a one, two, or three man extension of Station activities, conducted at a geographical point away from the Station.
3. The advantage of stationing an individual at an "Outpost" instead of a Base is that it relieves the officer of the time consuming job of reading and maintaining large amounts of administrative and operating material, such as regulations and instructions, and limits his reporting requirements on administrative matters since the reports on his activities are incorporated into the parent Station reports. This permits him to concentrate directly upon his operational responsibilities.
4. The point at which an "Outpost" is made a Base, with direct reporting responsibilities to Headquarters, occurs when the volume and complexity of the outpost activities reaches a point where they need to communicate directly with Headquarters to avoid the delay occasioned by relaying information through the Station — or at the point where the administrative reporting to the Station and the Station's reprocessing of the reports for Headquarters use, becomes more burdensome than if the reports were submitted directly to Headquarters.
5. It is also possible for a Base to revert to an outpost or dependent installation of the parent Station in order to gain an advantage through better coordination of communications and combination of reports. An example of this is the combination of the [] with the parent []

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